

“Friendship with the Holy Spirit”
May 17, 2015

John 16:12-15

“I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. 13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.” (NIV)

“But when the Friend comes, the Spirit of the Truth, he will take you by the hand and guide you into all the truth there is.” (MSG)

INTRO-

- **This passage (John 13-16) is one of the most important conversations in the Bible: Jesus describing the TRANSITION from the OT to the NT**
- **Jesus is saying: “What has been going on OUTSIDE you (*i.e., Presence of God; the Law of God*) will now begin to happen INSIDE YOU!”**
 - **My Presence will be IN you**
 - **My Law will be WRITTEN ON YOUR HEARTS**
 - **You will be transformed from “ought to” → “delight to” do My will**
- **And I will do this BY THE HOLY SPIRIT at work IN YOU!**

THIS IS A RADICALLY NEW RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD!

2 Corinthians 13:14- “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God (the Father) and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.” (ESV)

- **Knowing God as “ABBA”**
- **Experiencing Jesus in the present tense—Shepherd, Leader, Friend**

CORE: All of this is only possible through experiencing the Holy Spirit. We can expect a RELATIONSHIP. “Fellowship”—personal; closest of friendships. “When the Friend comes” (John 16:12 MSG). Learning to be a FRIEND OF GOD!

1. Holy Spirit is a PERSON

- **Jesus refers to Him as “HE”—not “it”**
- **He is not an “energy” or “power” or an “access code” to the supernatural**
- **He is DEEPLY PERSONAL**
- **He will “GUIDE (us)” (v. 13)—Lit. - “To take by the hand and lead; very personal & interactive in leading us”!!!**

2. Holy Spirit will TEACH us

- **“Guiding us INTO ALL TRUTH” (MUCH more than mere “facts”)**
- **“TRUTH”- “reality; reliable; no deceit/hype; nothing artificial”**

- The BIBLE was revealed in relationship; it must be received relationally
- “All Truth” goes beyond merely knowing “Bible verses”→ the life application of them (*i.e., He teaches us life skills*)
- NOTE: The Bible is not filled with abstract facts about the universe—it’s filled with revelation of:
 - What the Father thinks of you
 - What Jesus has done for you (& what is yours in Him)
 - How the H.S. relates to and interacts with you (and what He’s doing IN you)!
 - Holy Spirit guides us INTO a living encounter with these realities! (*NOTE: We can’t talk ourselves into being a child of God*)
- “WHAT IS TO COME”—more than “end time” prophecies
 - H.S. is HOPE personified
 - Fills us with COURAGE to see thru & beyond the moment
 - “What’s ahead for us”—what He’s doing in us; leading us into (*i.e., “The Divine Encourager will receive what is mine and reveal it to you” John 16:15 TPT*)
 - “What’s ultimately ahead for all of us”—Heaven on the way to Heaven (*i.e., Joy; Peace; Revelation—we will experience these to the max later*)
- H.S. makes sense of all of this to us—He’s an amazing Teacher—He’s God Himself—the Personal Teacher!
 - NOTE: “FACTS” are processed in your mind; TRUTH is received and “written on your heart”! RECEIVED, not just PERCEIVED. HEART to HEART—not just “head to head.”

3. Holy Spirit will SPEAK TO US

- No “theory” with the H.S.—only TRUTH—AND the POWER to live it out!
- “No word of God is void of power” (Luke 1:37)
 - God did not “wish for” Light in Genesis 1—He spoke and it was
 - So it is when God, the H.S. “speaks into us”!
- When He speaks:
 - He speaks PURPOSE...with the power to make it happen (*Philippians 2:13- “God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.” (NLT)*)
 - He speaks REVELATION (*i.e., rhema—“every rhema that proceeds from the mouth of God” Matt. 4:4*) H.S. is the “mouth of God” to us! *John 16:13- “He will speak”!!!*
 - He speaks CORRECTION AND MATURITY. His words are able to divide between soulish issues and spiritual ones” (Heb. 4:12) (*i.e., prune a tree for fruit or for appearance; fruit requires a deeper cut*)
 - NOTE: He speaks into our “heart”—where the real change happens!

RESPONSE

- **In light of all Holy Spirit is—and all He does—it's no wonder there has been so much controversy, division and ignorance of the Holy Spirit and His ways!**
- **For too long, the church has acknowledged a distorted Trinity—Father, Son and Holy Bible. *(i.e., our mental pursuit of scriptural knowledge—versus fellowship with the Living God who joyfully reveals to us “all Truth”!)***
- **NOTE: This is not a “forced fellowship” with Him—we CHOOSE to be open—to seek (and keep on seeking) to be filled by Him.**
- **Just as He did in the upper room following His resurrection—Jesus is still “breathing on us” saying, “Receive the Holy Spirit!”**